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Community E-lert®

DATE: June 8, 2005
TO: Community E-lert Recipients
FROM: Jeffrey Chen, Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Community E-lert #05-029

Community E-lert® is a registered trademark of the City of Medina Police Department. This announcement is provided as a public service to residents of Medina and Hunts Point. It is our intention to distribute these E-lerts following an occurrence or condition that may have public safety or community well-being implications. E-lerts are also available via fax for those residents without access to email.

CAREER CRIMINAL ARRESTED FOR EARLY MORNING BURGLARY

At approximately 5:22 AM on Wednesday June 8th, a Medina Officer was dispatched to a report of a suspicious person parked in front of a home in the 1600 block of Rambling Lane. A witness observed a white male occupant exiting a red truck and walking onto the property through the hedges, then was seen leaving the property with a black bag in his hand one to two minutes later. The vehicle then left the area at a high rate of speed, and turned southbound on Evergreen Point Road. The responding Medina Officer was able to locate the suspect vehicle heading eastbound on NE 8th Street. Once the officer caught up with the vehicle on 82nd Avenue NE, the suspect abruptly turned into a driveway in the 800 block.

The suspect immediately got out of his vehicle, spilling the contents of a purse onto the ground as he exited. Upon questioning, the suspect claimed he was in town working at a construction site with his brother. A Clyde Hill Officer arrived to assist and detained the suspect while two Medina Officers contacted the homeowner in the 1600 block of Rambling Lane. The Officers discovered an open door on the lower level of the home leading to the kitchen. The Officers awakened the homeowners who were completely unaware an intruder had entered their home through an unlocked door. They quickly noticed that a purse containing numerous credit cards, cash and checks had been removed from a bench just inside the door. The victims were brought to the suspect's location and positively identified their stolen property inside the suspect's vehicle.

Medina Police Community E-lert #05-029

While the officers were assisting the victims with the identification of their property, the suspect was actively trying to escape from the backseat of the patrol vehicle by forcing down the window to crawl out. In order to prevent the suspect from escaping, officers opened the rear door of the patrol car and the suspect made one last attempt to flee. Officers quickly gained control of the suspect and placed him under arrest. Upon search of the vehicle, Officers also discovered a bag filled with suspected marijuana and multiple knives. The suspect was transported and booked into the King County Jail.

The suspect's criminal history includes 21 arrests in Washington, with charges for Residential Burglary, Theft, Assault, Resisting Arrest, Eluding, Obstructing and Criminal Impersonation, along with a number of drug related arrests and probation violations. He also has an extensive criminal history in other states with similar criminal activity.

The Medina Police Department will be filing charges for Residential Burglary and Theft in the Second Degree with the King County Prosecuting Attorney. Detectives will also be looking to verify whether the suspect was employed at a construction site in Medina.

Based on the physical characteristics of the suspect, it does not appear this burglary is related to a similar incident that occurred on March 22nd, 2005 (refer to E-lert #05-019). The white male suspect is a 31 year old Mount Vernon resident, 5'7", 135 lbs, with brown eyes and brown hair.

Citizens are reminded to check your doors and windows to be sure they are secure before retiring for the evening.

If you wish to speak or make a comment about this incident, please email Chief Chen at jchen@medina-wa.gov.